

Oregon Daily EMERALD

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The 'Brainwashed' Generation?

The typical student today comes to college because it will enable him to get a better job. While at college he indulges in social and extra-curricular activities of little or no value. And his intellectual tone is one of indifference, conformity, complacency, compliance and caution.

This is the opinion of 16 professors from 16 colleges scattered throughout the country as reported in a recent issue of *Nation* in an article entitled "The Careful Young Men." Although none of the professors communicated with their colleagues before answering the questionnaire on college youth, the uniformity of their answers indicates that the problems are widespread, not only on a geographical basis, but also among big and little schools, and public and private ones.

Needless to say, these are serious charges that our professors are making against us; charges that we, personally, are not going to swallow and digest, as they seem to suggest we swallow and digest everything else we read and hear in our classes.

Several years ago we were labeled the "Silent Generation." Now in this article, one professor goes so far as to suggest the name "Brain-Washed Generation." By making this analogy, that professor leaves himself and his profession wide open to attack. If we are being "brain-washed," someone must be doing the "brain-washing." Who?

One professor suggests that mass media such as television and weekly magazines create the tone for the development of our values, with their . . . vaudeville, their entertaining capsules of culture, their easy digests of opinion and world affairs, (and) their advertising."

Several others, however, saw another cause for our so-called "indifference and conformity." One commented "... our faculties, armed to the teeth with their ineluctable Ph.D.'s, grow more and more specialized in their accumulations of knowledge." Another decried the situation where our courses were concerned "... with form, more than with statement." Still another blamed "The increasing power and influence of the Schools of Business and Education, with their respective stress on Money and Mediocrity . . ."

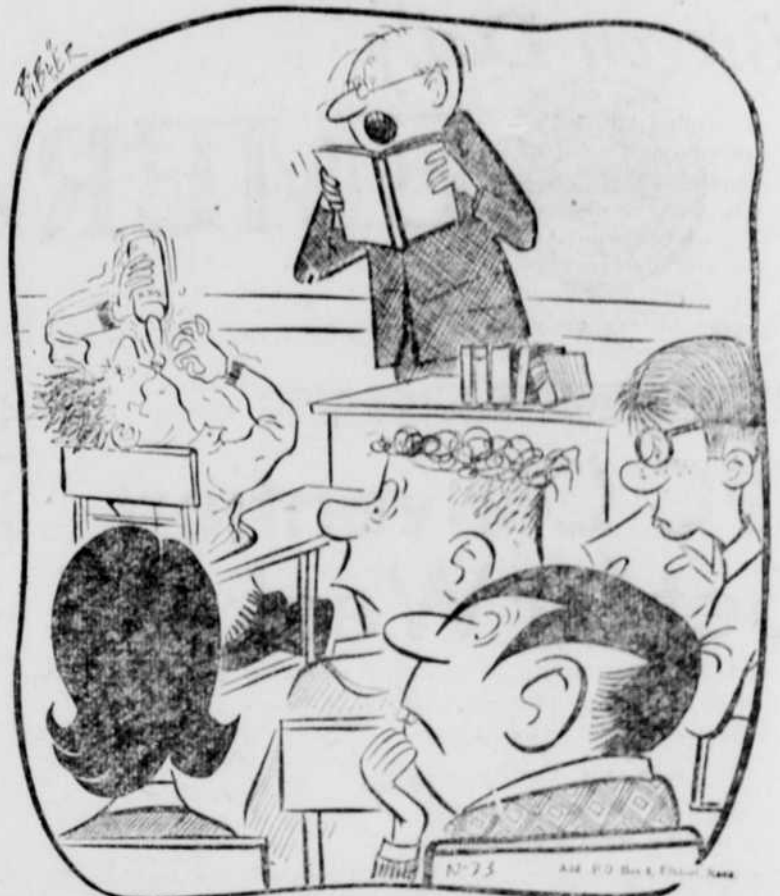
Speaking practically, we'll agree that much of the blame for our admitted caution and conformity lies within ourselves. And we're rather ashamed of the fact that *Playboy*, *Escapade*, and *Cabaret* outsell such magazines as *Harper's* and *Atlantic*.

We logically assume, however, that our environment has much to do with the shaping of our ideas. Who influences our environment; and who cultivates the gardens of thought in which our values and philosophies are nurtured and developed? Very simply, it's our entire society that has done most to make us what we are. If we are indifferent, or "brain-washed," we don't want to carry the whole blame on our "hesitant, cautious" shoulders. Society must share part of the burden, too. (S.V.)

Footnotes

Perhaps because it was April 1 . . . or perhaps it illustrated their opinion of traditions . . . six professors observed on the Hello Walk yesterday were treading on the Oregon seal.

Comp Class Prescription



"OK, OK, HENLEY—OTHER STUDENTS HAVE HAD TO FACE REQUIRED COURSES, YA KNOW!"

At Colorado State

Student Wonders About 'Creativeness, Originality'

The editor of *ROCKY MOUNTAIN COLLEGIAN*, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colo., printed this letter from a reader who is worried about "the lack of ingenuity and originality" on his campus.

Every time I hear the same, "Two bits, four bits,—stand up and holler" cheer, or the same "Saints Go Marching In" pep song at a basketball game, I wonder what has happened to our creativeness.

This lack of ingenuity and originality exists all over our campus. The argument that it is also found on other campuses does not solve the problem, but instead makes it an even more serious one.

What has happened to the philosophy of Emerson and Thoreau. Where is the creative genius of Jefferson, Franklin, Washington and Lincoln?

In Hungary students created an unknown freedom that lasted for only five days. In our

country we are given that same freedom at birth and don't ever care enough about it to protect it. We trade our freedom of free enterprise for government subsidies. For the right to feature our own nest, we beg for Social Security. These freedoms were created for us by men who risked their necks to sign the Declaration of Independence.

Where is this lack of creativeness and originality going to lead us? Will it lead us to a bright future where everyone is truly satisfied because no one has the desire or freedom to think originally? A civilization in which traditions will never be upset? Will it instead lead us to degradation and downfall of our civilization that will result in another middle ages?

These are problems that students on this campus apparently don't know exist. They are questions we should all be considering.

+ + Letters to the Editor + +

Emerald Editor:

The complacent attitude of Messrs. DuShane and Brittsan concerning the almost non-existence of racial discrimination in fraternal and sororal living organizations, as quoted in the *Register Guard*, deserves some attention.

Apparently they believe that the number of "racial and religious clauses" of these organizations is the index of their degree of racial and religious discriminatory practices. With the exception of a few houses, to the best of our knowledge, there are agreements and understandings that the initiation of Negroes, Orientals and Jews will bring rapid "pressure" to bear on the group from alumni and alumnae, if not expulsion from the national organization—regardless of the presence of "clauses."

What is unsatisfactory is when those few fraternities and co-ops that are really sincere in eliminating such undemocratic practices from their organizations are suddenly singled out as being "typical" examples.

In passing it is interesting to

note especially those minority group members who are athletes are singled out to break the "colour barrier." This is another manifestation of discrimination, but at least a start in the right direction.

We say congratulations to the TKE's and DU's, and even those co-ops that have quota systems, for at least they are making a sincere effort to practice what their name implies—a fraternal living organization. But to those groups that hypocritically ride on the laurels of the "pioneers" just to get favourable legislations, a self-analysis is in order.

To our knowledge there has never been a Negro initiated to a "white" fraternity nor has a Negro, Oriental or Jewish co-ed been initiated to a sorority on this campus. Yet, there have been many fraternity "boys" who would have loved to have pledged Negroes, Oriental and Jewish if it were not for the fear of what the national office would do.

We really take our "hats off" to those fraternity men at other institutions who have stood up for what they know to be right

and have consequently had to "separate" from their National affiliation because of their convictions. These are the men that really believe in their fraternity.

Bob Holloway
 Graduate in Sociology
 Vishnu Wassiamal
 Graduate in Political Science

Emerald Editor:

It seems to me that the editorial on "Race Clause in the Tax Bill" didn't put the question quite right. I think each fraternity member needs to decide whether he prefers (1) to pay an annual tax amounting to about \$1.50 and the maintenance of discriminatory race clauses, or whether he prefers (2) to get the tax exemption by removing the clause even if it means defying the national.

I lived in a fraternity most of my graduate years (the best one on campus if anyone wants to know) and I know that so far as the race clause is concerned opinion falls into three groups:

1. Those who want to remove the race clause.
2. Those who are afraid of

that bogeyman, the national.

3. Those who don't give a damn.

The latter group is by far the largest, but the question will be decided by the second group. They will have to decide where their greater loyalty lies, with the local fraternity and the University or with the national.

Bill Alexander
 Graduate in Political Science

Emerald Editor:

The *Register-Guard* reported that Darrel Brittsan told the House Taxation Committee, "We have almost no problem, I would say, with discrimination."

Professor Berreman, according to the *Emerald*, stated that the University foreign students had been discriminated against in Eugene. Definite forms of discrimination in this community are rare, but it does exist, for example, in housing.

Mr. DuShane testified that all sororities, co-ops and more than half the fraternities have no race restrictions in their rules. However, as he admits, there is no non-white-caucasoid co-eds in

the members of the sororities. Only TKE's have non-caucasoid members in practice.

Unwritten law may function just as well as the written law. As a student from Japan, I would like to point out one of my observations on this campus. To give you a concrete example, let us look at some fraternities' and sororities' selection on IFC foreign student scholarships.

Approximately a dozen fraternities and sororities sponsor board and room scholarships for foreign students every year. I have observed in the last five years that no Afro-Asian student has been selected by the organizations with one possible exception. (A Moroccan student was selected by Theta Chi but for some reason he preferred to live in the dormitory in 1952.) The same kind of scholarships are given to any foreign student by a number of dormitories.

I believe that these fraternal organizations' efforts to sponsor the scholarships are a very good thing, indeed, but what I am saying here is that there seems to be racial and religious

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